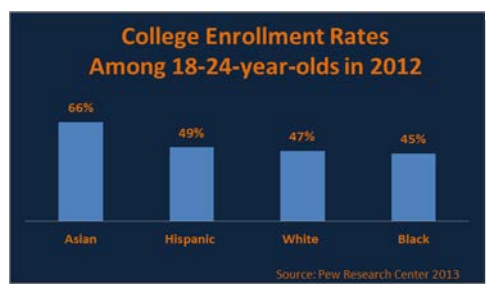




¡Gradúate! A Financial Aid Guide to Success May 2014

The White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics has created the ¡Gradúate! Financial Aid Guide to Success (Guide) to help Hispanic students and families navigate the college application process. Available in English and Spanish, the Guide provides recommended steps for the college enrollment process, helpful tips on filling out the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSASM\)](#) and key financial aid resources available to better support Hispanics, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and non U.S. citizen students, in their efforts to access a postsecondary education.



Research suggests that current federal financial aid efforts are not adequate and that not enough Latinos seeking college enrollment take advantage of key resources available. Data also indicates that more than ever before, Latinos are graduating high school and enrolling in college at higher rates. Yet only 15 percent of Latino adults hold a bachelor's degree. Informing Hispanics about the financial resources available and helping them enroll in and graduate from college is key to helping the country reach President Obama's 2020 goal – to once again lead the world in college graduates. The Guide highlights the following:

Planning for College

- Recommended steps of action for high school students, such as enrolling in challenging courses and completing the FAFSASM in order to receive federal financial aid.

Choosing the Right College

- Resources like the [College Scorecard](#), [Financial Aid Shopping Sheet](#), and [College Navigator](#) help students navigate the college planning and selection process to find the right one for them.

FAFSASM 101

- Information on the FAFSASM, the primary form that must be filled out annually to apply for federal financial aid, and key deadlines for submission.

Financial Aid

- Descriptions of the various federal financial aid programs available to help students pay for college such as grants, federal work-study and federal student loans.

Scholarships

- List of some scholarships available, including scholarships for students pursuing careers in the teaching and Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields, and guidance on the application process.

Financial Resources for Undocumented Students

- Information about the available financial aid options, including scholarships, available to undocumented and DACA students.

Completing College

- Types of on-campus resources available to support college persistence among Latino students.

Career Pathways

- Information about pursuing STEM and teaching careers – key priorities for our nations' future workforce.

The complete Guide can be found at www.ed.gov/hispanicinitiative